

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to inform the Members of the status of the pro-life amendment on the bill today.

Last night, there were lots of negotiations. There were a couple of compromises discussed. I went with my colleagues, BART STUPAK, CHRIS SMITH, MARCY KAPTUR, and KATHY DAHLKEMPER, before the Rules Committee after midnight. The final outcome is this: There will be only one pro-life amendment offered on the floor today. It will be the Stupak-Ellsworth-Pitts-Smith-Kaptur-Dahlkemper amendment that will prevent Federal funds from funding abortions in both the public plan or with affordability credits. It just codifies the Hyde Amendment for the two new programs.

This actually preserves the status quo of our law today. No Federal Government funding for abortions, just like SCHIP, Medicaid, DOD, FEHBP, Indian Health.

This is a bipartisan amendment. The pro-life groups National Right to Life, Catholic Bishops, and family groups all support this. I urge the Members to support this amendment when it comes to the floor today.

PASS HEALTH CARE TODAY

(Mr. MORAN of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, we are a great Nation, a prosperous and compassionate one, but our health care system doesn't measure up to that greatness. In fact, we pay twice what every other industrialized nation pays, and yet 71 nations have enabled their people to live longer and healthier lives. The difference is that they have decided that the health of their people is a higher priority than the profit of their insurance companies.

Mr. Speaker, we, today, will have the opportunity to bring our health care system up to a standard deserving of the greatness of this Nation by controlling our costs, by covering all of our people, and by improving the quality of the care that they receive.

This bill is deserving of the greatness of our Nation. It must pass today.

REPUBLICANS HAVE THE RIGHT PRESCRIPTION FOR HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, despite months of town hall meetings and after millions of Americans voiced their opposition to a government takeover of health care, Democrats in Congress are moving ahead anyway.

Not only does the Pelosi health care plan raise taxes and increase spending, it will vastly grow the size and power of the Federal Government, taking more and more of our freedoms away.

The Pelosi health care plan proposes the creation of more than 110 new bu-

reaucracies, boards, commissions, or programs. More taxes, more spending, and more government is not the plan for reform the people support.

Republicans have a plan that allows us to keep our freedoms and not be dictated to by the Federal Government. It's the right prescription for health care reform.

SAY "YES" TO HEALTH CARE FOR AMERICA

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, the American people are counting on us to reform this broken health care system. Health insurance premiums and out-of-pocket costs have risen steadily, and the number of families in trouble over health care continues to grow—48 million uninsured, 50 million underinsured. We simply cannot afford to maintain the status quo.

Those who continue to resist a much-needed change in our health care system are refusing to deal with the problems, and they won't go away if we ignore them.

The health care insurance reforms we are espousing will benefit Americans, including those who are already enrolled. No longer will coverage be denied or hikes go for preexisting conditions. Insurance companies will no longer be able to drop insurance when a policyholder becomes sick, just when a patient needs insurance the most.

There will be a positive emphasis on prevention, with vaccinations, mammograms, and colonoscopies that will be covered with no out-of-pocket expenses. In addition, there will be lower premiums for millions of older Americans who will see the doughnut hole go away.

I urge my colleagues to do the right thing and vote for this bill.

FIX WHAT'S BROKEN IN HEALTH CARE

(Mr. SCALISE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, today is the showdown on a government takeover of health care. And while there are still deals being cut to try to round up the last few votes in the dark of night behind these closed doors, what the American people have said is they want transparency, and they don't want a government takeover of health care.

The American people want to fix the problems that are broken like we do in the Republican alternative we will be presenting that actually lowers costs. The CBO score says 10 percent reduction in health care premium, addressing preexisting conditions, and, yes, we actually do real medical liability reform to lower the cost of health care and stop all of these tests that are run just for defensive medicine purposes.

Just a little while ago, one of my friends on the Democratic side said that he wants to redefine freedom. Well, with all due respect, I think the Founding Fathers got it right. We don't need to go and rewrite freedom and have a government takeover of health care.

Let's fix what's broken, but don't break all the things that make medical care work so well for many Americans in this country.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 3737, H.R. 1838, H.R. 1845, H. Res. 700, H. Res. 877, in each case de novo.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

SMALL BUSINESS MICROLENDING EXPANSION ACT OF 2009

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 3737, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3737, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 405, nays 23, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 876]

YEAS—405

Abercrombie	Bishop (NY)	Calvert
Ackerman	Bishop (UT)	Camp
Aderholt	Blackburn	Cantor
Adler (NJ)	Blumenauer	Cao
Akin	Blunt	Capito
Alexander	Boccieri	Capps
Altmire	Boehner	Capuano
Andrews	Bonner	Cardoza
Arcuri	Bono Mack	Carnahan
Austria	Boozman	Carney
Baca	Boren	Carson (IN)
Bachus	Boswell	Carter
Baird	Boucher	Cassidy
Baldwin	Boustany	Castle
Barrett (SC)	Boyd	Castor (FL)
Barrow	Brady (PA)	Chandler
Bartlett	Brady (TX)	Childers
Barton (TX)	Braley (IA)	Chu
Bean	Bright	Clarke
Becerra	Brown (SC)	Clay
Berkley	Brown, Corrine	Cleaver
Berman	Brown-Waite,	Clyburn
Berry	Ginny	Coble
Biggart	Buchanan	Coffman (CO)
Bilbray	Burton (IN)	Cohen
Bilirakis	Butterfield	Cole
Bishop (GA)	Buyer	Connolly (VA)